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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the WITZENBERG Area

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 8 September 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. a. Four dust-covered trucks, each occupied by 12 very young soldiers with full pack, moved into the Tauentzien Kaserne, WITZENBERG (N 32/E 37), the morning of 12 July 1949.

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b. The WITZENBERG Tauentzien Kaserne was heavily occupied by six units of 500 to 600 men. About 30 percent of the troops were recruits. Some of the troops wore tank insignia on their epaulettes. Many officers, including a large percentage of field officers, were observed in the kaserne. The field officers had passenger cars.

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2. a. A rocket launcher, a 75.2 mm antitank gun and three trucks pulling 120-mm mortars, were observed in the area of the WITZENBERG Blak Kaserne. The following motor vehicle were secured at the kaserne the same day:

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truck, driven by an artillery soldier
passenger car
truck
small personnel carrier
truck. **

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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This document is hereby regraded to
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b. Tank, artillery, signal and engineer units totaling about 1,500 troops were quartered in the Blak Kaserne. Most of the troops were very young. Three T-34/43 tanks and six 120-mm mortars were seen in the kaserne area. Troops were trained with the mortars.

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3. a. The unit from the WITTMENBERG Beseler Kaserne was on maneuvers on 12 July 1949. Only rear details totaling about 100 troops, tank and artillery soldiers, were observed in the kaserne on that day.

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b. The Beseler Kaserne was occupied to capacity by a guard tank unit of about 1,000 troops. Most of the troops observed in the Kaserne wore war decorations. The following armored vehicles were seen in the kaserne area:

Eight T-34/43 tanks

Three "Shchuka" tanks

Three SU-152 self-propelled guns

Three more T-34/43 tanks and 20 infantrymen were seen in training about 1,300 feet north of the kaserne.

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Comment:

- a. only component units of the 6th US Tank Div (Cadre) were stationed in the three WITTMENBERG kasernes mentioned. The report indicates that these units or at least rear details of units which had left for maneuvers were still located in the kasernes in July 1949.

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